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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARKS OFFICE**

January 27, 2004

Re: Our File: 11782-01  
Invention: A NEW PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR RAPID AND  
HOMOGENEOUS MIXING OF FLUIDS IN CONTINUOUS  
OPERATIONS  
Application No.: 09/283,198  
Filed: April 1, 1999  
Country: United States  
Inventor: Fielder et al.  
Examiner: David L. Sorkin  
Art Unit: 1723  
Due Date: February 9, 2004

The Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sirs:

Agent for Applicant respectfully acknowledges receipt of office action dated 10/31/2003 and 11/10/2003 and responds as follows:

**Response to Applicant's failure to timely file a proper reply to the office letter mailed on 04 April 2003**

The applicant has received the track from the UPS that the response had been delivered to The Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on 02 October 2003, i.e. before 04 October 2003. Enclosed is a copy of the tracking summary. The applicant had also paid a check of \$465 for the extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) for the patent application in that mail. The patent office took the money from my account on 14 October 2003.